

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action of August 31, 2004. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

The Office Action

The application was identified as containing claims directed to two (2) patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. **Species A** was identified as including **FIGURES 3-7**, and **Species B** was identified as including **FIGURES 8 and 9**.

Election of Species

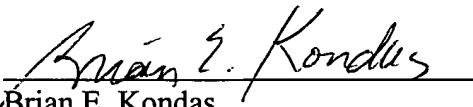
Applicants elect **Species A**, which includes **FIGURES 3-7**. Therefore, Applicants elect **claims 1-8 and 10-20**. As such, please withdraw the remaining claim, namely **claim 9**, without traverse.

Applicants note that **claims 1-8, 10-13, and 15-19** are generic.

At this time, Applicants believe that no additional fees are due. However, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 03-0172.

Respectfully submitted,

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